

# EMPOWERING QUOTES FROM 10 INFLUENTIAL WOMEN

From not getting the right to vote until 1920 to having abortion protections taken away with the overturn of *Roe v. Wade* in 2022, the story of women’s struggle for equity and equality in the United States has many chapters. If history has taught us anything, it’s that women are resilient.

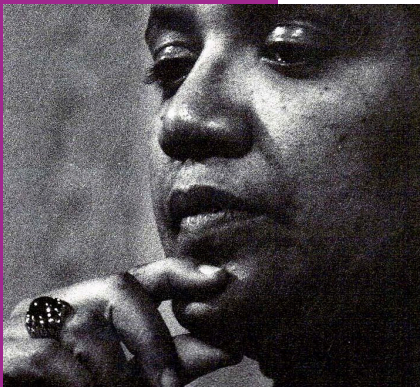
This Women’s History Month, we would like to reflect on powerful quotes from 10 influential women. We encourage you to consider their meaning and to discuss them with your family, friends and colleagues.

“You can and should set your own limits and clearly articulate them. This takes courage, but it is also liberating and empowering, and often earns you new respect.”

**Rosalind Brewer**

President and CEO, Walgreens

*(Walgreens is No. 40 on DiversityInc’s 2022 Top 50 Companies for Diversity list)*



“When I dare to be powerful, to use my strength in the service of my vision, then it becomes less and less important whether I am afraid.”

**Audre Lorde**

Writer, Feminist, Professor and Civil Rights Activist

“We must not forget that while some have created generational wealth through tools like racism, sexism and classism, fairness and access will always be more profitable.”

**Carolynn L. Johnson**

CEO, DiversityInc



“The village that I sought out to surround me, to support me, to bounce things off of has propelled me to different positions, different career choices in life.”

**Yvonne Spencer**

Colonel, U.S. Airforce

“Fight for the things that you care about but do it in a way that will lead others to join you.”

**Ruth Bader Ginsburg**

Former U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice

“You deserve to develop. Are you waiting on somebody else? For the company to tap you on the shoulder, or for some other company to tap you? The first piece of developing your mentors, your sponsors, your network, is being really clear and intentional about what you want. And that little voice that says ‘I don’t know’ or ‘I can’t’ and ‘I don’t have this.’ Answer the questions of what do I have and what do I need? Now you are more clear about do you even have the right mentors and sponsors to help you investigate where you want to go and help you get there? Build that map and encourage yourself.”

**Rae Livingston**

Chief Equity Officer at AbbVie

*(AbbVie is No. 23 on DiversityInc's 2022 Top 50 Companies for Diversity list)*



“I believe Native Americans, women and all of us deserve representation, and that we all need to fight with everything we have to make it so.”

**Deb Haaland**

United States Secretary of the Interior

“No country can ever truly flourish if it stifles the potential of its women and deprives itself of the contributions of half of its citizens.”

**Michelle Obama**

Former First Lady of the United States



“Do every job you’re in like you’re going to do it for the rest of your life and demonstrate that ownership of it.”

**Mary Barra**

CEO, General Motors

*(GM is No. 36 on DiversityInc's 2022 Top 50 Companies for Diversity list)*

“I will protect my healing by any means necessary because I like the healthy version of myself much better than the version that’s walking on eggshells. I get to finally meet the healthy me. It’s not about bringing your authentic self to work — it’s about bringing your healthiest self to work.”

**Minda Harts**

Founder and CEO, The Memo, LLC

# QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

**Who is an influential woman in the world today that you find inspiring?**

**Do you feel that the representation of women within your company is insufficient, sufficient, or above average?**

**How does your organization support the accomplishments of women within the company and throughout the communities it serves?**

**When it comes to sports, some advancements have been made to be more inclusive of women, but where does more work need to be done?**

**If you had to think of one major takeaway from this report that could apply to your company what would it be?**